The Black Mirror News Reflections

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Inside This Issue...
PHOTO EXCLUSIVES

GRACE REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH INC. REVEREND LEVIN B. WEST, SR.'S
21ST ANNUAL APPRECIATION AWARDS BUFFET DANCE
photos... photos... photos...

To love my people shouldn't imply I hate others ...
(AUTHOR UNKNOWN)

NEW JERSEY EDITION

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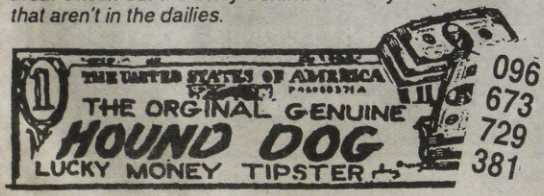


Frankie Crocker, 63, the voice of New York's WBLS-FM radio

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK – Frankie Crocker, a top disc jockey, radio personality and program director for New York's WBLS-FM radio station for three decades, has died of cancer in a Florida hospital, station representatives said yesterday.

Crocker, who was about 63, was hospitalized for pancreatic cancer about four weeks ago but had kept his illness a secret from friends and even his mother, said Debbie Jackson, an on-air personality at the station.

Crocker joined Harlem-based WBLS soon after its founding in the early 1970s and within five years helped make it the city's No. 1 station among listeners 18 to 34.

In later years, Crocker played a recurring major role in a fierce battle for audiences among New York's black-oriented radio stations. Three times he was brought back as a program director in bids to boost WBLS back to the top spot, most recently in the mid-1990s when it had fallen from No. 5 to No. 13 in the area's Arbitron ratings.

He last worked at WBLS about four years ago before moving to California, where he had a home, Jackson said.

Crocker, who began his radio career while studying pre-law in his native Buffalo, also appeared on stations in Los Angeles, St. Louis an Chicago, hosted ethnic community programs and emceed shows at Harlem's Apollo Theatre.

As an actor, Crocker appeared in five films, including "Cleopatra Jones" and "Darktown Strutters."

He is survived by his mother. Funeral arrangements in Florida were incomplete, with a memorial service in New York later.

POLLY TICKS

This column, which is exclusive to The Black Mirror News will bring the "truth" to our community when others "lie".

IF YOU ARE NOT A PART OF THE SOLUTION, YOU ARE A PART OF THE PROBLEM

The African-American community has the opportunity to deliver a knock-out punch to racism in New Jersey.

On Tuesday, November 7, 2000, Election-Day, we can go to the polls and send a serious message to all those politicians who trivialize those issues that negatively affect our quality of life.

Racial profiling on New Jersey's highways by the state police is such an issue. For many years African-Americans were stopped while driving for no reason other than the color of their skin, not only are such stops repugnant, they are unconstitutional.

You can count the Republican elected-officials on one hand who have genuinely spoken-out in opposition to racial profiling. Instead they (Republicans) have circled the wagons to protect the reputation of Gov. Christine Whitman.

Bob Franks is a Republican member of Congress. He is also a candidate for the United States Senate. You have never heard Mr. Franks speak-out about the evils and unfairness of racial profiling.

the Republican party the trivializes concerns of minorities in general and African-Americans in particular.

Well folks, on November 7, 2000, you and everyone you know can send the Republican Party the loudest message on earth. One all politicians understand – go to your local polling place and vote!

Your vote does count and you do have a message to send!

JON CORZINE is the Democratic Candidate for the United States Senate – he really understands our concerns – **JON CORZINE** has spoken-out repeatedly about the wrongs of racial profiling.

We endorse **JON CORZINE**, he will represent our interests in Washington.

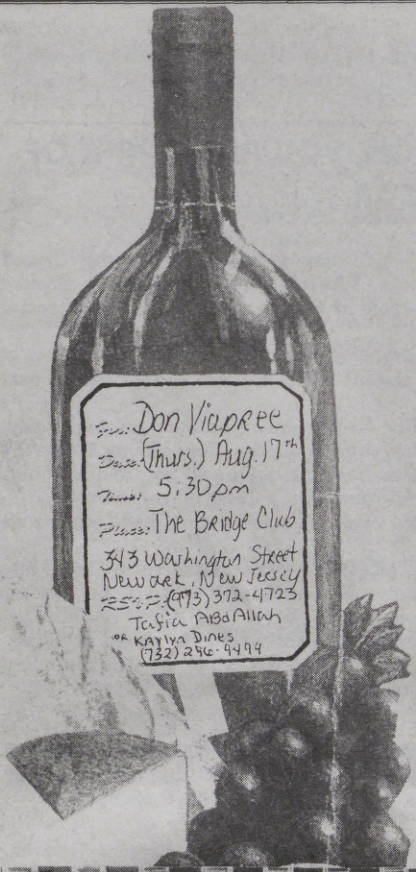
ON THE COVER...

21st ANNUAL

Grace Reformed Baptist Church Inc.
Appreciation AWARDS BUFFET DANCE
held at the Robert Treat Hotel, Newark, NJ

Rev. Levin B. West, Sr., B.A., B.D., M.Div. began the evening "saying it is with God's grace that we are here to celebrate" – and celebrate they did. Among the hundreds who attended were: Gwen Sandford, Carolyn Gilliam, Cathy Cuomo-Cecere, Marshall Cooper, Miles Berger, Alice Jones, Miquel Rodrigues, Calvin West, Anthony Ambrose, Fran Gray, Weequahic High Sch, Flamingo Precision, James W. Treffinger, Ronald H. Manzella, Sr. George Dredden, Brenda Veltri Possumato, Sheila Y. Oliver, Paul H. Hopkins, II, Coleen D'Alessandro, Joseph N. DiVencenzo, Bonnie Watson, Patricia Sebold, Linda Lordi Cavanaubh, Henry "Hank" Martinez, Johnny Jones, James R. Paganelli, Anthony Jackson, Joseph Sarpelli, Anthony Abbaleo, Paul J. Hopkins II, Harry P. Pappas, Jaun C. Fernandez, Brian P. Scantlebury, Joe Louis Clark, James J. Williams, Muriel Shore, Ed. D., R.N., Armando B. Fontoura, Adrianne Davis, Carol J. Brinson, Joseph P. Brennan, Jr., Carole A. Graves, Patrick J. McNally, Lisa Gomez-Rivera, Dr. A. Zachary Yamba, William Wilks, Anthony Marino, Robert L. Bowser Sara B. Bost, Wayne Smith, Lebby C. Jones, Sandra Harte, D. Bilal Beasley, John Sowell, David Lyons, Fred M. Bost, Sharpe James, Bessie Walker, Gayle Chaneyfield-Jenkins, Donald Tucker, Luis Quintana, Senator C. Louis Bassano, Assemblyman Kevin J. O'Toole, Assemblyman Joel Weingarten, Sen. Richard J. Codey, Assem. Leroy J. Jones, Assemblywoman Nia H. Gill, Senator Ronald L. Rice, Assem. Wilfredo Caraballo, Assemb. Craig Stanley, Assem. William Payne, Robert Torricelli, Frank R. Lautenberg, Robert D. Franks, William J. Pascrell, Donald M. Payne, Rodney P. Frelinghuysen, Robert Menendez, Lawrence Goldman, Joseph Yeadon, Harold Edwards, U.C..C., Rueben Johnson, Herb Clay, Tom Ashley, William Manns, Donald Bradley, Branford Press, Autumn Erling, Jay Brinson, Ganntt, Karia Squire, Harry Coleman, Karin Shaker Alfred Faiella, Michelle Bush, Kennedy Wilson, Perry Funeral Home, Tullis, Studio, Jeanne LaRue, Bettye Grayson, North Card Center, Haresh Shan, Larrie & Fred Stalks, Maylock, Gwen Moten, Delores Metz, ABC Booking, Louise Epperson, Rev. Perry Simmons, Valley National, Longo Agency, Pat West, Rev. Malachi Rountree, Elvin Giordano, True Homes/Mike Falcone, Cory Booker, Anthony Carino Mamie Bridgeforth Augustus Armador, Eddie Fuquan Brown, Irene Almeida, Bernice Hatcher J. Johnson (Local 617), John Pace, and so many, many others.

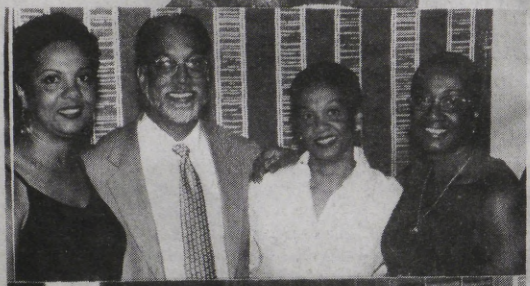
MORE PHOTOS ON PAGES 12, 13, 16 & 17



DON VIAPREE'S *Birthday Bash!*

Check out the many who came... saw... and partied...

Melisa Henderson, Mississippi Charles Bevrel, Gloria Bryant, Adrian Jones, Gleshia Givens, Alonzo Smith, Patrcia Valdez-Elliot, Owens Morris, Tito Wilkerson, Sharlene, Dijait, Bob Holmes Deborah Davis, Lloyd Holmes, Dorthan Kirk, V. Means, Cathy Lennox Hooker, Evelyn Alston, Deboriah Best, Joynes Haynes, Shiela, Tiafia Abdallah, Donny Pryor, Paul Lachha, J. Weslor Tann II, Syliva, Beverly Cooke, Kiaren Love, Cathy Gainer, Wamon Pendblton, Pat Smalls, Winston Ellis, Camille Turner, Gloria Buck Barry Washington, Lawrence Henderson, Wendell Wilson, Mayor Sarah Bost, Councilman Fred Bost, Dawn Martinez, Kamlyn Dines, Dr. Cynthia Paige, Dr. Rudolph Wills, Dr. Bernier Lavredau, Stephnie Smith, Earline Turner, Lonai Morley, Darnel Davis, Jenkinw, Ralph Grant, Claudia Viapree, Gloreon Cash, Donelon Iyizoba, Jeanette Page Hawkins, Susan, Gwen Zeller, Cheryl Burroughs, Arlene Munn, Doborah, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Nunaly, Donald Bernard, Ronald Thompson, Esq., Juma, Carol Patterson, Howard Scott, Julian Thompkins and many, many more.



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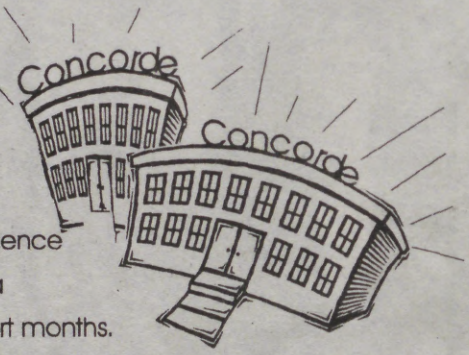

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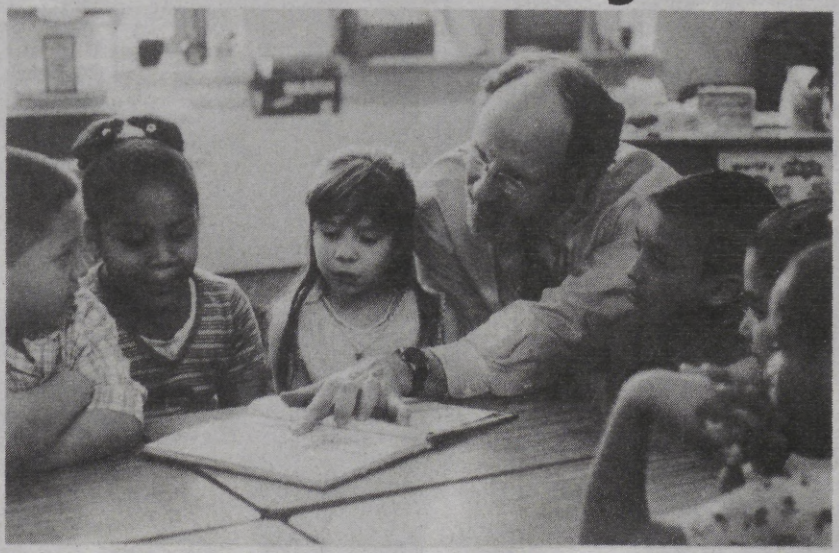

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Jon Corzine

NJ Democrat for U.S. Senate 2000

Jon Corzine with his campaign manager, Christy Davis, Esq. Ms. Davis is the first African-American woman to serve as campaign manager for a U.S. Senate candidate in New Jersey. Ms. Davis is a graduate of

It's time to get

BOLD THINGS DONE

VOTE THE DEMOCRATIC LINE ON NOV. 7, 2000

21st ANNUAL

Grace Reformed Baptist Church Inc.

Appreciation

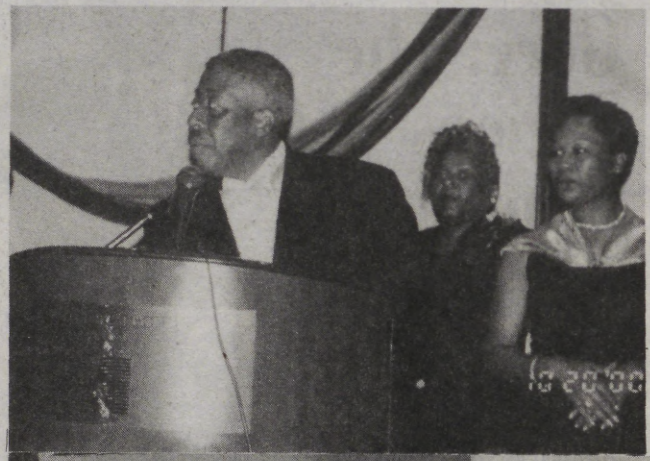
AWARDS BUFFET DANCE PHOTOS

To say "We have come this far by faith," is an understatement!

Rev. Levin B. West, Sr., B.A., B.D., M.Div.
Pastor & Founder
Grace Reformed Baptist Church

The Officers, Members & Friends of Grace Reformed Baptist Church, Inc. Newark, New Jersey, held an Appreciation Awards Buffet Dance Honoring The Rev. Levin B. West, Sr., M. Div., featuring Lawrence Goldman, President New Jersey Performing Arts Center, as Keynote Speaker. Minister Deborah West, and Mary Dawkins were Mistresses of Ceremony, Hon. Mayor Sharpe James, Mayor City of Newark, Hon. James Treffinger, Essex County Executive, Hon. Donald Bradley, Newark Council President and Hon. Joseph DiVenzico, President Board of Freeholders gave greetings to those assembled

Awards for Community Service (**Fran Gray, Brian Scantlebury, Bernice Hatcher & Mike Rodriguez**), Labor Leader of the Year (**James "JJ" Johnson**), Humanitarian (**Calvin West**), Law Enforcement (**Anthony Ambrose**), Journalist (**Carl "Tiny Prince" Brinson**), Pride In Newark (**Mayor Sharpe James**), Creative Education (**Dr. John Pace**),Special Education (**Gwen Sanford**); Golden Age (**Alice Jones**), Youth Achievement (**Carolyn Kelley, & Almustafa Nasir Shabazz, Flamingo Precision Marching Band, Gregory Good Lamar West**), Businessman of the Year (**Miles Berger**), Woman of the Year (**Cathy Cecere**), Man of the Year (**Marshall Cooper**), James Blackwell Scholarship (**Haydee Perez**), Susie West-Carter Scholarship (**Zakiyyah Shakir**), James Treffinger Scholarship (**Mack Dawkins, III**), McKissick Scholarship (**Nichelle Rowe**) were presented to the above honorees.



TURN TO PAGES 16 & 17 FOR

more photos...

AFTER HOURS AFTER HOURS AFTER HOURS

People we miss – **Gladys D. Hoffler-Thomas**, one of the finest in tennis and golf and a world traveler... **A. Hakim Ibn A Razzaz**, one who could always remind you of common sense in race relations... **Jeri McRemmon**, a classy lady about special projects in East Orange when **John C. Hatcher Jr**. was the mayor... **Cynthia M. Couch**, who always knows about human resources for women... **Walter R. Anderson Jr**. of New Jersey State Police who has been missing from our Civil and Human Rights meetings. He's the second Vice President... Artist **Sterling Brown**, who has slowed down since he's become a daddy... **Denise Hamilton**, the singer and song stylist has been missed at the local spots – we would like to see her at "**Maize**"... **Malik Akbar** of **Sheffield Electric Co.**, one of the people we also hardly see or hear from these cool nites – smiles... **Patricia W. Wooten**, the Administrative Specialist – where has she been hiding? We are going to get our own special place for all of you – smiles... *Folks are talking about*– the 2-page spread in our last issue "*We Know What You Did This Summer!!*". They're saying how come none of their vacation jaunts got into the photo spread. Well, check out the information on page 2 of this issue – and send us your photos with a brief synopsis of your trip, ok? We'll run 'em (smiles)... **Assemblyman Craig Stanley's 6th Annual Prayer Breakfast**, held at the **Robert Treat Hotel** featured **Rev. Al Sharpton** as guest speaker. He spoke of the need to press on in the struggle for human rights and not be so complacent and creature-comfort oriented. We'll have exclusive photos in our next issue. ***DON'T FORGET TO VOTE FOR YOUR FUTURE AND MINE ON NOVEMBER 7TH, 2000***!

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FALLING LEAVES

LeROY "SONNY" OLIVER
a business natural
He operated his own shops and clubs – among them, Kings Hat Shop, Sonny's Barber Shop and the 1085 Club. His best-known establishment, the Flower Garden, burned down in 1995. He was one of the first forerunners of black businessmen (in Newark).

IRA POWELL, 60
foster father to 100 youths
He spent the last 20 years running a virtual "Boystown" in his home in Elizabeth, providing a foster home to over 100 neglected or abused inner-city children.
In 1981, with his own children beginning to leave the house for college and work, Mr. Powell and his wife, Sally, decided to turn their five-bedroom home on Walnut Street into a certified foster home. Many of the children, she added, came to her home with nothing but the clothes on their backs. The Powells would then take care of them, buy them sneakers and clothes, and teach them how to read and write.

WILLIE COOKE, 76
lead Trumpeter with Gillespie and Ellington
Mr. Cook joined Ellington as a lead trumpeter, a role that requires stamina and doesn't allow much room for solos. With some breaks, he remained in the band for almost a decade. He worked with B.B. King, Clark Terry and Count Basie in the late 70's; in 1982, on tour with Count Basie, he traveled to Sweden and decided to settle in Stockholm. He worked in Sweden for 11 years as a lead trumpeter with Gugge Hedrenius's Big Blues Bland.

REV. CHARLES C. LOCKHART, 87
Minister in Newark
Rev. Lockart was a minister at Mount Olivet Baptist Church for several years. Earlier, he served at Sweet Beulah Baptist Church, Newark, First Union Baptist Church, Neptune, and was interim minister at the Calvary Baptist Church, Red Bank.

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AWARDS BUFFET DANCE PHOTOS

ON THE MOVE...
FYI ... FYI ... FYI ...

SOCIAL SECURITY boosts cost-of-living an average of $29 a month – beginning in January, 2001.

The cost-of-living announcement, affecting 45.2 million Americans getting Social Security checks, is aimed at preventing rising inflation from eroding beneficiaries' buying power.

- For 2001, the average Social Security check for all retirees will go from $816 to $845 a month, and from $1,363 to $1,410 for couples who both get benefits. Individuals who get Supplemental Security Income will get an increase from $512 to $530 a month on average, while couples will see a monthly increase in SSI from $769 to $796.
- The Medicare doctors' bill part B premium deducted from checks will increase $4.50, to $50 a month.
- Current workers and employers will see the maximum earnings subject to Social Security payroll tax go from $76,200 to $80,400. There is no earnings limit on the 1.45 percent Medicare payroll tax to cover Part A hospitalization for retirees and the disabled.
- Retirees 62 to 64 years old can earn up to $25,000 a year in outside income without losing $1 in benefits for every $3 they earn above the limit. The current limit is $17,000.

DELLA MOSES WALKER
"She has your interest at heart."
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SPORTS in COLOR

Well, good-bye baseball and hello football, basketball and hockey!

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As they like to say in the commercials... "baseball at it's best!".

Oh well – on to other matters... **Keyshawn Johnson** of the **Tampa Bay Bucs** has finally gotten a chance to show his stuff. It's about time they "gave him the damn ball!"... The **Chase Women's Tennis World Championships** will take place from **November 13, 18, 2000 at Madison Square Garden**. Among the many stars expected to compete will be **Serena Williams, Martina Hingis, Venus Williams Lindsay Davenport, Anna Kornakova and Monica Seles**. This should be an exciting event for all fans of the game of tennis...Hey, what's up with the **Knicks** already? Getting shoved around and blown out so early in the season.... Meanwhile, **Patrick Ewing's** out in Seattle trying to get adjusted to his new surroundings... Also, around the NBA– there's talk that **Chris Webber** of Sacramento might bolt for the NY **Knicks** as soon as he can get away – according to his best buddy **Latrell Sprewell**. (Stay tuned on this one.)... Attention **NY Jets:** will the real **Vinny T** stand up and be counted. I'm having trouble picking my games in the company pool with his inconsistent play. C'mon **Vinny**!

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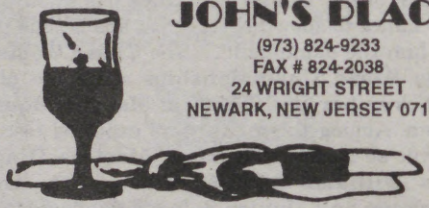

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THE SHADOW KNOWS...

If you think for a minute that *The Shadow* is asleep, think again, *The Shadow* sees everything and tells all. Like last week when that old man on Grove St. in East Orange thought he was slick, picking up that young girl at the corner of William St. and heading for a motel on Rt. 22. She wasn't so dumb though, she made him feed her and take her to Bradley's for a dress first – and that's more than he has done for his wife in the last twenty years. She's making car payments out of the little bit of money she makes from her day care job... Why are so many people out in the street begging for money? I have never seen so many strong young men asking if you have any "spare change" or a cigarette. I told one the other day that there is no such thing as "spare change", I need all that I can get my hands on try getting a "spare job"... There's a certain young sister who thinks all of the men who see her, wants her, and she might be right – she has all of the things that makes you a superstar – pretty face, nice hair, big boobs and a heavy duty bootie. The only thing she doesn't have is a J.O.B. and I don't think she has ever tried to find one... *The Shadow* hopes you are watching your back because every best friend is not *your* best friend. Remember, friends expect you to share things with them this can also include your girl or your man. Like that cute couple on Clinton Ave. near So. 11th St. in Newark. He thinks she is all his all the time, but *The Shadow* knows differently. While he's out on the corner working his "job" as a chemical salesman, she is also selling her goods to a lot of men in the area... *The Shadow* sees that the young girl's skirts are getting shorter and shorter these days and as a result we now know who has knocked knees and "heavy duty" booties... The fellows are still riding up and down the streets all night in flashy cars with no money to go into the clubs – and if they do go inside the "repo man" is waiting outside to make them New Jersey's newest pedestrians... A warning to Miss T.M. on So. 17th St. in Newark: stop what you are doing now! He ain't worth it – he'll never leave his wife for you in a million years. And remember, men only leave home for another woman on soap operas – get real, and stop dreaming. And as for you, mister, stop leading the girl on – telling her your wife doesn't understand you, the only thing she doesn't understand is how you can be out in the street every night with the boys.

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